

Mr. Ira Teller  
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July 9, 2008

Jennifer Johnson – Secretary  
Board of Governors of The Federal Reserve  
20<sup>th</sup> Street and Constitution Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20551

RE: Docket # R-1314

Dear Governors:

I bring to your attention deceptive and predatory practices with regard to the process of credit card application that I inadvertently discovered, and am glad to share with the Board of Governors.

A friend of mine was detained for alleged petit theft (shoplifting) at a major national department store.

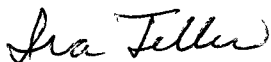
Getting right to the heart of the matter. Loss prevention personnel deceived her into disclosing her social security number. They took her drivers license from her purse. Then she was instructed: "Follow us, you are going to apply for a credit card to "pay us off"! She was duped into disclosing her social security number. They misused her social security number by applying for credit she had no suggestion or intention of doing. She had previously disclosed to the store personal she had mental illness! This to them was irrelevant.

The Federal Reserve should enact/amend current regulations, to protect alleged shoplifters from coercive, abusive, and deceptive practices while in the custody of loss prevention personnel with specific regard to forcing a citizen into applying for a credit card under duress to "pay us off"! I am investigating these predatory practices with a state senator's office here in New York. If you have any investigators with the Federal Reserve or a cooperating branch of the federal government (Social Security or F.D.I.C.) we would assist them in any way.

Clearly, this appears to be a widespread and secretive retail industry practice. We couldn't of made this up. Simply put, these are deceptive and predatory practices that require to be clearly prohibited in regulation and federal law.

Please share this letter with the appropriate House and Senate Committees. Thank you in advance for allowing public comment.

Respectfully submitted,



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Ira Teller

Cc: Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney  
Rep. Steve R. Israel  
Rep. Michael R. McNulty